



USAID
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BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

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FACT SHEET

Support for Local Governments

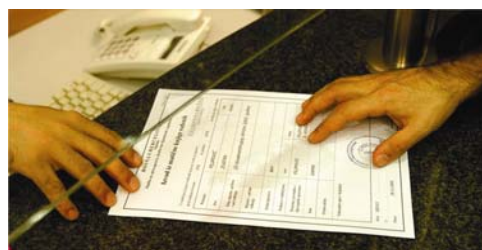
The U.S. Government, through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), began its efforts to aid municipal governments in 2001. USAID's efforts are based on the belief that well-performing, efficient municipal governments increase citizens' faith in institutions of democratic governance as well as provide healthy environments for economic growth. Good local governance allows for issues-based politics to take precedence over divisive, ethnic-based considerations. Moreover, helping local governments acquire capacities to better discharge their responsibilities is a necessary step in efforts to provide the taxpayers of Bosnia-Herzegovina with more efficient services.

USAID's local government programs support U.S. Government priorities to assist Bosnia-Herzegovina to become an accountable, transparent democracy. Overall, the U.S. Government has provided over \$1 billion to support the development of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Governance Accountability Project (GAP)
(December 2007– December 2012)
Inc.

Budget: \$10million
Implementer: Chemonics International

USAID, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands are jointly funding GAP for a total of \$30 million. GAP is improving the customer service profiles and the administrative/management systems of 71 local governments through direct municipal interventions, including the construction of One-Stop-Shops, which dramatically reduce waiting times for citizens by consolidating customer service for the entire municipality at one location. GAP is also helping local governments to improve management of their finances by providing technical assistance designed to help them better control and rationalize revenues and expenditures. GAP provides targeted policy interventions in conjunction with mayors and municipal associations to improve the transparency, accountability and effectiveness of Bosnia-Herzegovina's governance structures. The project helps local governments to strengthen their common voice through association building.



One Stop Shops provide documents in rapid time

Srebrenica and Bratunac Digital Cities Initiative
(February 2007 - February 2010)

Budget: \$559,000
Implementer: Connexit—BiH ICT company

USAID/BiH partnered with CISCO Systems and BiH Telecom to provide Srebrenica and Bratunac municipalities with an internet-based communication network in order to implement various functions of e-government. The total cost of the project is \$1.2 million. Once operational, the shared network will enable 17 municipal institutions to share relevant information and improve services to citizens. It will also create the opportunity for these two communities to communicate with people and organizations from other cities, developed rural areas, educational institutions and potential business partners worldwide.

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